

# THE TRUE AMERICAN.

Devoted to Universal Liberty.

## VOLUME II.

**TERMS.**  
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### The Mexican War.

Thomas Jefferson has been ranked by the more religious part of community as an infidel. Yet some of his sayings are worthy of the highest place in the esteem of all good men. He could not have been the worst of infidels who said in reference to the slavery which then pervaded almost all the States, "I tremble for my country when I remember that God is just," and in reference to government, "that which is morally wrong cannot be politically right."—This last declaration stands in high commendation of that disregard of moral obligation which proclaims, "All is fair in politics;"—"Our country right or wrong." According to Mr. Jefferson's maxim, governments and political parties are bound by the same moral principles which bind individuals. This is the doctrine of the Bible, and must be the doctrine of all intelligent Christians and philanthropists. The opinion has been industriously inculcated, that a State of war puts an end to the common liberty of free discussion, suspends the laws of morality, for the time, and binds every good citizen to unite with all his powers in support of the government of his country, whatever his private opinions may be of the rectitude or wisdom of its measures. But the opposite of this must be true, upon the rule of Mr. Jefferson. War is so terrible a calamity that governments ought not to find it a protection against public scrutiny; on the contrary, governments ought to be restrained by the consciousness that if they allow themselves to be involved in war, they will be called upon to give ample reasons for so great an evil, and during the progress of the war, will be held to a rigorous scrutiny, least under the influence of its great temptations, they adopt measures which are immoral. That in these days a nation is at war, seems almost of necessity to imply a want of wisdom or sound morality. There was force in that declaration of a Senator who exclaimed, "Of what value is your diplomacy, if it cannot save us from war?"

The war with Mexico came upon the Administration as unexpectedly as it did upon the nation at large. It came, in consequence of the same false policy being adopted towards her, which was adopted towards England; the policy of raising the utmost hazard of war, that to avoid so dire an alternative, peace might come. The Administration no doubt expected the Oregon question to terminate as it has, in an adjustment. Yet the Notice, which, according to the declaration of the President, would, at the end of the year present the alternative of an adjustment of the boundary—or war, together with the demand of more than was clearly right, with the rejection of all overtures for arbitration, and that in a tone of rough defiance,—all this did create in the minds of prudent men, a deep alarm, and but for the wisdom of our Senators and our people, and the cool dignity of the British ministers, would probably have brought upon us a war as horrible in its consequences as it was unnecessary and worthless in its object. By this policy, we have lost a portion of Oregon, which would have been ours if only we had floated on the tide of destiny,—a loss, however, of what is worthless, and so not to be regretted. But thanks to a kind Providence, the "kill or cure" policy terminated in peace, though not so much from the policy itself, as because it was counteracted and overruled by better plans.

Our relations with Mexico this same policy has involved us in the other alternative, and plunged us into a war as perplexing as it was unnecessary. Oregon was fairly ours to 19, and Texas to the Nueces. Beyond those bounds our own statesmen were divided as to our title. Yet in both cases the Administration went for 54 40 as our "clear and unquestionable" right.—It is no part of our purpose to extenuate the wrongs which Mexico has done us.—Miserable Mexico, priest-ridden and robbed, has been groping in darkness for three hundred years, under the name of a Christian community, but in all that time has made no progress; for she has been guided not by the light of revelation from above, but by superstitions from beneath. Our object is only to find out what we, as a great free and Bible nation, ought to do, in accomplishing the high destiny with which Heaven has entrusted us. We know what is right, and can afford not only to be just, but generous, charitable, nay, compassionate. Although Mexico claims the whole of Texas as hers, yet if we had confined our pretensions, or at least our armies, within the boundaries of Texas proper, there would have been no war. There is very little question about this, in the minds of intelligent men. The seafarers along the left bank of the Rio Grande had never taken any part in the Texan revolt. They were Mexicans, as loyal to that government as any other portions of the nation; and although Texas spread her declaration of independence to the Rio Grande, it was never with the approbation of the people on its banks, nor in fact did real independence ever extend there for one moment. The absolute boundary of all sympathy with Texan independence was probably the barren desert midway between the Nueces and the Rio Grande. A just man will not take forcible possession of more than is his unquestionable right, at least in his own opinion. That which is doubtful he will leave to negotiation or arbitration. If we had been governed by the same rule, our armies never would have crossed the Nueces, and then our interests and honor, and the peace of the world would have been preserved. Instead of this, we marched our army to the utmost verge of a questionable claim, and not content with that, planted our cannon in such a manner as to control, and in effect take possession of, a city to which we did not pretend to have any claim.—What boots it that in this position our General was ordered to be circumspect, and to declare that he came on a mission of peace only. His actions were hostile, irritating,

insulting; and they aroused the unwise ire of Mexico to its "sticking point." No conqueror ever yet announced that his object was war. Bonaparte always martialled his armies for peace. How, under these circumstances, can we appeal to heaven and say that this war is neither "necessary" or "just."

The manner in which the constitutional sanction was obtained to the existence of war, it seems to us, is in the highest degree reprehensible. In the excitement and agitation with which the news of a Mexican attack filled Congress and the nation, the President sent to Congress a Message demanding the passage of a law recognizing the existence of war, with authority to raise fifty thousand men and expend ten millions of dollars. A proposition to declare war was voted down instantly in the House, but this executive call for a recognition of war, the effect of which was precisely the same, was urged through with the impudent and slanderous declaration that every patriot who demanded time to think of so dire a declaration, was a traitor, and a Mexican at heart. When Mr. Calhoun stood up in the dignity of a patriot Senator and declared his readiness to vote the appropriation and the men, extravagant as was the extent of the demand in this respect, but asked a day to consider the question of war, the proposal in both its parts was refused by the leaders, and in the rush of furious excitement, not men enough was found to hazard their personal popularity for their country's good, to control the desperate movement. Secondly, that she shall treat about and fix a boundary between herself and the United States. Thirdly, that she shall agree to pay us what she owes us. We appeal to the justice and moral sense of the American people to say whether in these things there is any justification for invading Mexico and killing her citizens. Has not Mexico, as an independent nation, a right, according to international law, to hold diplomatic relations with us, or not, her pleasure. This right is practiced upon ourselves and all civilized nations, without assuming that the withdrawal of such relations is cause of war, or even of offence. If pecuniary indebtedness, or the settlement of a boundary is the cause of war between nations, authorizing invasion and slaughter, then may every creditor enter the house of his debtor and shoot him down, and every farmer who claims a boundary about which his neighbor refuses to negotiate, may do the same thing to him. The ground is no better in one case than the other; and we fear that the statement proves our invasion of Mexico with the intention of murdering all her citizens who attempt to oppose our invasion, to be not only without good cause, but unjust and wicked; a crime of the blackest die.

With these views it is easy to see how peace should be procured. If we cease to prosecute the war there will be peace. To say we fight for peace is a delusion. Withdraw your arms and take a position of unquestionable justice. We should say, on this side the Nueces. But if this is too much to hope for, then on this side the Rio Grande. No nation ever had so large an opportunity to obtain real honor, and lay the world under obligations to us, as we had after the Mexicans were repulsed. If in the midst of victory we had declared, "We will not disturb the peace of the world by a war upon Mexico, but content ourselves with vindicating the integrity of our soil, and our flag upon the highway of nations;—if Mexico stops here, no more blood shall be shed;" there would have been high honor in it, and sound policy too. That time is past; but now, let our armies be withdrawn from Mexico, and our fleets from the blockade of her coast, and there will be peace; as good a peace at least as has existed for the last ten years, and just as good as would exist under any treaty which could now be formed, our own recognition of war only excepted. If in a new treaty, Mexico should again promise our money, the nonperformance of the promise would probably lead to renewed irritation. Nothing is to be gained, and much to be lost, by a prosecution of the war. Trade will be lost. Many valuable lives of our own citizens will certainly be lost in the camp, if not in fight; and the attempt to capture the Mexican capital, will expose us to disaster and defeat, under the accumulated disadvantages of an invading war.

Sundry collateral reasons, we know, are urged for continuing the war, showing rather that direct reasons are wanting. It is said that the war will extend civilization and liberty, break down the oppression of hierarchy, and especially of military despotism. But these are such reasons of benevolence as the ambitious destroyers of our race have always been ready to urge. The people of Mexico have a right to manage their own affairs, and be miserable until they can furnish among themselves the men who are necessary for their deliverance. It would be a strange assumption, that the United States are obliged to set up schools for the catholic governments of South America, and compel them to be educated and reformed. The task would be more perplexing than the famous obligation to preserve the "balance of power" in Europe, which has cost so much blood and treasure. Besides, like all other possible objects of the war, these are much better accomplished by another revolution in Mexico, which will put some one at the head of affairs who will help us out of the scrape; and we proclaim Mexican aspirants, through our government newspaper, that we war only "against the war party in Mexico;" thus rendering the United States an appendage to an opposition faction in our enemy's counsels. California we can invade without waiting for facts to help us. In her boundless wilds there are, in truth, but few people of whom to make factions in resistance of their own government or ours. A Western army is bravely marching, therefore, upon Santa Fe, which, to our amazement, we find belongs to us; or at least that consistency compels us to say so, because it is on the left bank of the same Brave river, which was the boundary of the Texian *declaration*. If Yucatan could only be brought to declare her independence, making the same river the Northern boundary of her declaration, why then, by annexing Yucatan, we should hold all Mexico by the same sort of title under which we claim Santa Fe. But this claim is in contradiction to that upon which we rely in treating with Texas, viz., that she has for years maintained her independence and governed herself. Santa Fe has never maintained or declared its independence for an hour; and

## LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, WEDNESDAY,

so, by our own rule, belongs to the government with which it has been associated. In the Message to Congress in which President Polk recommended the recognition of war, he says, "I shall be prepared to renew negotiations whenever Mexico shall be ready to receive propositions, or to make propositions of her own."

The terms of this declaration of the President have been essentially modified, however, by the government organ. The Union says that the objects of the war are "reparation—justice—peace."—When she shall profer suitable terms they will be accepted. Till this is done, our war will march steadily and vigorously on—it will ascend the table land of Mexico—it will march from province to province and from stronghold to stronghold, until finally it shall dictate to Paredes, or to any successor if need be, a compulsory peace, within the walls of his capital." Bravo! verily, the editor speaks like a God. Here, then, the plague is taken back entirely; for "reparation" and "justice" are a broad basis for any demand, and mean that fighting is to cease, when Mexico submits to our demands. This is a total repudiation of the presidential pledge.

It becomes, under such circumstances, an inquiry of great interest, what are the demands which our government makes upon Mexico; and whether they form any just cause for prosecuting the war. If we understand the matter, our government demands, first, that Mexico should treat with us. Secondly, that she shall treat about and fix a boundary between herself and the United States. Thirdly, that she shall agree to pay us what she owes us. We appeal to the justice and moral sense of the American people to say whether in these things there is any justification for invading Mexico and killing her citizens. Has not Mexico, as an independent nation, a right, according to international law, to hold diplomatic relations with us, or not, her pleasure. This right is practiced upon ourselves and all civilized nations, without assuming that the withdrawal of such relations is cause of war, or even of offence. If pecuniary indebtedness, or the settlement of a boundary is the cause of war between nations, authorizing invasion and slaughter, then may every creditor enter the house of his debtor and shoot him down, and every farmer who claims a boundary about which his neighbor refuses to negotiate, may do the same thing to him. The ground is no better in one case than the other; and we fear that the statement proves our invasion of Mexico with the intention of murdering all her citizens who attempt to oppose our invasion, to be not only without good cause, but unjust and wicked; a crime of the blackest die.

"These reports, with the sole exception of the first paragraph of that of Dr. Bassom, the Magistrate of St. Andrews, are of a favorable and encouraging description, as to the condition of the people and the hope of their improvement.

In an island of only 110,000 acres, with a population of at least 130,000 persons, there is abundance of all that is necessary for the sustenance and animal comfort of life. The mass of the people consist of abled-bodied laborers in agriculture, who having lost the dislike of field labor which slavery has produced, are now a willing, active, and industrious class, contented with a rate of money-wages which does not on the average exceed 7s. a week, and yet having heart and soul enough to wish for independence and to live at the *prosperity* of property. Amongst the consequences are a small increase of freeholders, a more general one of ratepayers; and what is called the renting system, or the leasing of the tenements with small portions of land attached, is obtaining a foothold in the island.

"By the returns of the inspectors of prisons, taken in conjunction with the reports of the magistrates, your lordship will perceive that amongst this crowded and rapidly increasing population there has been no increase, either in the number of persons committed to prison, or in the cases of established crime. There is an entire absence of the more atrocious crimes.

"More than three years have passed since my arrival in the island, without a single instance of sentence of death being passed by the Judge of the Criminal Court. There has been no indictment for murder; nor any sentence, I believe, exceeding the punishment of two years' imprisonment and hard labor."

"The charge committed to his care is weak, ignorant, immature, and constitutionally subject to error.

Order must be maintained. This is the primal law. The superiority of the heart; the superiority of the head; the superiority of the arm; this is the order of the means to secure it.

The great question is, to whom, or to what, is subordination due. It is primarily due to the law,—to the law written upon the heart, to the law of God. The teacher is the representative and the interpreter of the law. He is clothed with power to punish its violations; but this comprehends only the smallest part of his duty. As far as possible, he is to prevent violations of it, by rectifying that state of mind out of which violations come. Nor is it enough to reprove our wife over no unavailing regrets—nor to hate the cowardice of doing wrong."

My thoughts are haunted with the vision of a christian Commonwealth, in which every man, whatever be his function or office, shall feel himself to be an anointed priest of the Lord, and infuse into his daily life the spirit of purity and devotion, in which the different seeds of the christian world shall lay aside their theological wranglings, and enter into a noble strife to see who shall most resemble, in life and in spirit, Him, after whose name they are called, in which the rent fragments of Christ's garments shall be woven again into a web of holiness and beauty. Then the earth will become a temple, and the roar and hum of daily life will go up like a chorus of praise and thanksgiving. Brethren, this is a dream and no more? are the tares ever to grow in the field of the Lord? are the faint and bleeding hosts of truth never to forego their wasting conflict, and are the weak never to inherit the land that is promised them?

The end is far, and cannot be discerned.

Some see it gilded with hope, and some darkened with gloom. But motives in effort are to be drawn from sources, over which the changeful moods of our own mind have no power. The past we cannot recall; the future we cannot command; the "fleet angel" of the present we can seize and hold. The passing hour we can crowd with heroic action, and generous sacrifice. Brethren, the night cometh in which no man can work; let us live and work while it is day, that we may lie down on our repose with no unavailing regrets—no stings of self-reproach.

**Sound Sentiment.**

We cannot forbear quoting the following paragraphs from the New York Tribune, for the benefit of those for whom they were intended:

"It is a common and most ruinous presumption that simple industry never leads to competence, and that wealth is necessarily the product of trade, and generally of fraud or crime. The young mechanician or artizan says, "O, it is not use for me to try to save anything out of my five or ten dollars a week in the city, or my ten or twenty dollars a month (besides board) in the country,—as the case may be,—nobody ever got rich in that way." Now, it is quite true that a colossal fortune was never realized from the savings of straightforward labor, and probably never will be.

But it is a great mistake to suppose that a competence may not, by most men, be realized from naked downright labor, or that men are constantly doing this. All around Boston, Lowell, and almost every city, are the comfortable dwellings of mechanics who commuted without a dollar, and never made a good bargain in their lives, but had bought a lot, built a house, and now live independently thereon, on the savings of ten or twenty years of honest labor. Say, if you please, that they ought to have received and laid up still more in the time, and we shall not contradict you; we are as strenuous as you can be in asserting that labor can be and should be secured a fuller reward. But do not cling to the fatal mistake that industry is never prospered."

Look back over the career of nine-tenths of the rich men among us, and you will find they commenced life as poor men, and laid the foundations of their fortunes by saving a portion of the scanty proceeds of their daily toil. Afterwards, they were enabled to procure property more rapidly by the help of that they acquired, but they began with little savings, and could never have succeeded otherwise. We are not holding up these men as models for imitation—we regard the ambition to heap up riches as groveling and despotic. But few men can be truly independent or greatly useful without some property, and no man can innocently take upon himself the

**EMIGRATION INTO VIRGINIA.**—The emigration from Western New York and the New England States into the northern part of Virginia is very large. Fairfax county is coming fast into the possession of settlers also likely to be rescued in a similar manner. "It is a singular spectacle," says the Richmond Republic, "which Virginia now presents: the departure of her own sons to other lands, and the immigration into her borders of citizens from other States. For years has she been drained of the flower of her youthful population, leaving their place to be supplied by men who seem to place a higher value upon the advantages which they have surrendered."

**GEM FOR THE CHRISTIAN.**—In this life Christians must not only expect to do God's will, but also to suffer it; and the ends they pursue are not high, but

they show an admirable sagacity in the means they use to accomplish them. On the other hand, the good men are not conspicuous for wisdom or sagacity. They pursue high aims, but do not choose the best means. Their goodness is visionary, unpractical and fanatical. They awaken the scarcely suppressed contempt of the hard, shrewd, sagacious, man of the world. These latter hardly pay them the compliment of sincerity. They do not go to them if they want advice in any doubtful matter, as the investment of property, the purchase of an estate, the marriage of a son or daughter. We instinctively associate eminent goodness with want of force of character, and feebleness of intellectual fibre. Thus the children of darkness are wiser in their generation than the children of light. We give our poor tykes to heaven, while the world, the flesh, and the devil, exact the nine-ninth parts of our effects, our energies, and our thoughts.

## AUGUST 12, 1846.

Perseverance

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Thus the children of darkness are wiser in their generation than the children of light. We give our poor tykes to heaven, while the world, the flesh, and the devil, exact the nine-ninth parts of our effects, our energies, and our thoughts.

BRETHREN, this is a fearful mistake, and fearfully shall we answer for it, if it be amended. Let it be born ever in mind, that the foundations of material prosperity are moral, and that there can be no soundness in the body politic unless the principles of christian morality flow and circulate through it, like the blood in the natural body. If we leave the moral and religious interests of the country in the hands of elegomen, of women, and of a few visionary and fanatical laymen; if the sagacity and shrewdness of the country are to be absorbed in the accumulation of property; if the policies of the country are given over to reckless demagogues, venal office-seekers, and unprincipled editors, our wealth and material prosperity will rest upon foundations as uncertain as those of a palace built upon the crater of a volcano. The politics of the country, as matters of deep concern to all of us. We cannot daunt them aside, and let them pass, if we could, we ought not to if we could. They include our highest temporal interests. They form the framework which encloses, and gives support to all the rest. We must elevate and exalt them. We must entrust the work of government to clever hands and pure hearts. We must rebuke the doctrine, whether directly maintained or indirectly sanctioned, that the morality of the gospel is too fine for use. We must bring about a union between wisdom and goodness. We must dedicate the most vigorous faculties of man to the highest ends. We must enlist the passions in the cause of truth and virtue. We must rebuke the doctrine, whether directly maintained or indirectly sanctioned, that the morality of the gospel is too fine for use. We must bring about a union between wisdom and goodness. We must dedicate the most vigorous faculties of man to the highest ends. We must enlist the passions in the cause of truth and virtue. We must make men do good and be good, with that energy and intensity with which any human imagination to picture to itself a form of life where we could be happy without virtue.

How unworthy the sacred office of a teacher, if he incites his pupils to effort only by displaying before them a brilliant prospect of worldly honors and distinctions, or the power and pride of wealth, while he neglects to cherish the love of man in their bosoms, or to display before them daily, the spirit of purity and devotion, in which the different seeds of the christian world shall lay aside their theological wranglings, and enter into a noble strife to see who shall most resemble, in life and in spirit, Him, after whose name they are called, in which the rent fragments of Christ's garments shall be woven again into a web of holiness and beauty. Then the earth will become a temple, and the roar and hum of daily life will go up like a chorus of praise and thanksgiving. Brethren, this is a dream and no more? are the tares ever to grow in the field of the Lord? are the faint and bleeding hosts of truth never to forego their wasting conflict, and are the weak never to inherit the land that is promised them?

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THE TOLERATION.—When Abraham (not the Abraham of the Bible, however,) sat at his tent door, according to his custom, waiting to entertain strangers, he espied an old man stooping and leaning on his staff, weary with age and travel, coming towards him, who was an hundred years of age; he received him kindly, washed his feet, provided supper, and caused him to sit down; but observing that the old man eat and prayed not, nor begged for a blessing on his meat, asked him why he did not worship the God of heaven? The old man told him that he worshipped the fire, at

**THE TRUE AMERICAN.**  
"SCHOOL AND LIBERTY."  
LEXINGTON, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12.

To Do, or to be Undone.

We spent three days last week at one of our fashionable watering places.

We suppose there is not much difference in the character of these establishments, wherever they may be situated, excepting in this, that in Kentucky, and the slave States, they are supported almost exclusively by Southerners. Owing to this cause, we are enabled to form some opinion of the tendencies and influences, moral and intellectual, which bear most strongly upon our countrymen.

The watering place where we tarried, with few exceptions, was visited by Kentuckians, and the majority of the visitors were of the younger classes. How were they employed? What was their walk and conversation? We do not of course expect, at such places, to find mere students, to see them playing the part of philosophers, to hear them talking, or witness them acting, as if they had come for labor, and not for recreation; but that recreation, and the spirit in which it was sought, could not fail to show us, how the wealthier classes of the Southwood happiness, and tried to possess it.

The first thing which struck us, and which would strike the intelligent stranger, on witnessing the conduct of the young men, was the entire absence of any wise, intellectual employment. Out of an hundred of them, we met not one who referred to books, or culture of any kind, or who showed by his conversation that he cared for either.

Politics occupied some little attention, and occasioned some little debate. But the subject was treated as a local matter, and discussed wholly upon the lowest schemes of party politics.

There was no broad or generous views expressed; no wise or liberal measures suggested; and no disposition manifested to hear the one, or debate the other. Indeed, the conversation of the "best society" at the Springs was decidedly of a low cast; selfish and generally sensual in bearing; and seemingly turning on the one point, how the body could be well cared for, and the appetites well fed.

The second consideration that would force itself upon the observer, especially of our "frat young men," would be, if he penetrated beyond the surface, the lawless indulgence of their worst and lowest passions. Gambling and licentiousness mark their conduct. We stood where some fifteen or twenty of them were assembled, (all, save five or six, apparently under the age of thirty,) and saw them hasty, for hours, wasting their time and treasure in the game's den. And it was a fearful sight. We watched the flashing eyes of the players, rolling wildly under their fretful lids, with lips bared, and the muscles of their faces convulsively contracted or relaxed, as hope animaded, or defeat disappointed them. There was at times, a dead silence in the room. All were intent upon the game, and the footfall of servants, passing to and fro, as they hopped round the intoxicating cup, and the broken signs of losers, could be heard with terrible distinctness. Avarice was triumphant there. And they who had every advantage, and possessed means, pecuniary and intellectual, which they could have used for their own and others good, seemed to cling to the damning vice as if they had no power to tear themselves from it. We say in that room, youth who were the hope of influential parents, sacrificing manliness and virtue to this horrid thirst for gaming, and witnessed others of their age, and class, led on by the tempter, preparing rapidly to run the same career of folly and crime. And it was a sad, sad scene; so sad a one we never before witnessed; for we knew instinctively, that the youth before us had sacrificed, or sold, their better nature and higher hopes.

For laurels—for the world's first gold!

"I'm graving, burning with that will not rest,

The virtuous passion of the human breast;

To the first for it which—granted or denied—

Silence—silence—silence—silence—silence—silence,

Just as the wave of Pauans flows by.

Circling the pond and singing the bideye!

And leaving, this scene of sin and sorrow, the observer penetrates still farther into the secrets of this fashionable resort, he will find, that sensuality of the basest kind is indulged in without limit. If we were to judge of the young men whom we met, we should say that *this* was the main purpose of their lives. It was the topic of conversation. Nothing seemed to amuse them more, or so much, as when engaged in talking of it. And after night-fall, if their own stories were to be credited, it was, in one form or another, the sole object of their pursuit! A venerable man endeavored, on one occasion, where some ten or twelve young men were together, to change the conversation, and succeeded in whipping in Kentucky, and a large portion of the free States, to the support of her insolent denial. But the country drove Congress on to right ground, and we did not suppose any member of that body would be mad enough to controvert again this right. In this we were in error. Senator SEVIER of Arkansas, when petitions were presented in the Senate against the revenue bill, protested, saying:

The effect of the passage of the bill by the other house would be to raise a clamor and uproar in every workshop of the country, and we should be fairly inundated with their petitions; if we printed one we must print the others, and he intended therefore to go against printing any of them.

Languish like this, showing the contempt felt by Southern men for free labor, has existed in the free States a deep feeling, and there is a strong disposition manifested to resist openly, and effectually, all those who are influenced by a like spirit with the Arkansas Senator. "The clamor and uproar of American work-shops." What is this clamor and uproar but a sign of manly energy and independence? Yet Southern men would neither, and would deny to the mechanic the poor right of petitioning to an American Congress, would say to them that they should not be heard in defense of their interest? This is too much for the most patient endurance to bear, and it will not be borne.

Again, Pennsylvania complains that she has been tricked out of her rights by traitor sons, and her interest despised by treacherous politicians whom she trusted. She spoke as she felt—strongly. She spoke as she had a right to do—freely. But the Southern party in Congress, and the Southern press, do not relish open protest, and honest denunciation of their favorite measure, and they talk as if they were indeed masters of many slaves, their slaves. Listen to the Charleston Mercury:

It is indeed a notable pretension to set up that both Pennsylvanians were too ignorant and unimportant to affect the issues involved in the Presidential election; it is therefore dishonest and treacherous for Congress to adopt any measures but such as their ignorance and stupidity may now dictate or approve.

"Ignorant and stupid!" That must sound well in the ears of Pennsylvanians. We dare say, she will have intelligence enough to know the hand by which she was smitten, and courage enough to resist it in time to come. One of her own sons, in reply to this insulting language, says:

Pennsylvania has been an iron barrier between the North and the South; she has maintained the cause of the latter in every exigency affecting the momentous interests of that section; if such is to be her reward—rain and tempest—let her be hereafter. Let the South do the same.

This sounds well. Let each free State look to itself—not selfishly, not in a mean or narrow spirit—but with large and liberal views, with a true regard for labor, and the rights of man, and this Southern party will be scattered by their power like chaff.

The work goes steadily on. Pride of power, and possession of place, have made mad these Southern men. We regard it as the forerunner of their downfall. It is thus ever that wounding ambition has overthrown itself.

**Judge Gruber.**

The Senate has confirmed the nomination of this gentleman to the bench of the Supreme Court. The selection is a good one. Judge Gruber, in the West, has a high reputation for learning and integrity. We regret only the manner in which the Washington Union announces his confirmation to office. It says, "all are glad to learn that his democracy has been uniform and inflexible, and that he is sound on all the great constitutional questions of the day." A judge has nothing to do with politics, and it is a bad sign when party papers speak as the Union has done above.

**Election.**

We are unable to give the details of the elections this week. We suppose we are safe in saying that the Whigs have carried this State, and that the Democrats have elected in Indiana their Governor and the majority of the Senate. The Whigs carried the lower House.

**Disbanding.**

By order of the President, the Louisiana volunteers called out by Gen. Taylor have been disbanded. A good deal of excitement has been occasioned by this act. New Orleans papers speak violently on the subject, and say the treatment of the Louisiana and Alabama volunteers has been outrageous.

**From the Camp.**

The Washington Union of the 4th announces, that thirteen small steamers have ascended the Rio

Grande, and arrived at Matamoras, for the transportation of Gen. Taylor's troops, and that four more are expected—two from Charleston, and two others from Philadelphia. A letter from Mr. Whiting to the Quartermaster General, in Washington, has just been received from Matamoras, dated July 17, which says: "One of the boats which went up to Camargo, returned this day. She reached there without much difficulty—not more than is encountered below that. The troops on board of her took quiet possession."

**Correspondence.**

We have, as usual, a budget of letters, some kind, some angry, some insolent. Many of our friends complain of things which can't be helped, and others look for acts which can't be done. We try to merge all things into the one great end—the spreading of right notions about freedom, and helping to prepare the public mind, North and South, for its enjoyment. Can we do better? I have nothing to do—let me go to Cincinnati, or some place in Ohio, where I may engage active business, and I will learn what is worth doing.

The father knew the son to be earnest, and understood the cause of that earnestness, and he determined to save him, and has saved him. There is no hope, then, for our wealthy young men, as a class, unless they awake, and help the good, and the true, to lay the monster vice that crushes them. And what motives have they for this exertion? To save themselves—to be known at home as true patriots—to be heralded abroad as wise philanthropists—to build up the prosperity of the State—to create for it a new character, and imbue our people with a new spirit—this, this would be their glorious reward. Will not the young men of Kentucky, then, spurn from them firmly and nobly, the strong temptations which surround them—make home, children, and wife happy, by making themselves virtuous? Will they not stand up, as the brave youth of other ages have stood up, the defenders of right and of liberty? Let them do this, and they are safe. Let them neglect it, and they are undone.

**Peace.**

Most joyfully do we announce the rumor from Washington that proposals for peace have been made on the part of Mexico, and that the subject is now under discussion in the Senate.

Our government dare not, if it respect the opinions of the world, or the confidence of its own people, early on this head—what can be prevented; and that it can be, we all know. Mexico is bound hand and foot. She cannot lift her heel against us. Is it just, or manly, or christian, for us, under these circumstances, to treat her down and wring from her by force, her soul? Let us have peace. Let it be just and an honorable peace. Let no animosity mark our conduct in all our bearings towards unfortunate, prostrate Mexico.

**Steadily On.**

The political papers of the country are giving evidence of new life. In all the free States, they are speaking a true language of independence, and showing more and more of decision. Our government dare not, if it respect the opinions of the world, or the confidence of its own people, early on this head—what can be prevented; and that it can be, we all know. Mexico is bound hand and foot. She cannot lift her heel against us. Is it just, or manly, or christian, for us, under these circumstances, to treat her down and wring from her by force, her soul? Let us have peace. Let it be just and an honorable peace. Let no animosity mark our conduct in all our bearings towards unfortunate, prostrate Mexico.

**The success in procuring names is not wholly the effort of one. You have several subscribers who take great interest in supporting the True American in this part of the country, and as I live in the town they have generally given me the money to remit to you. I am very much in hopes we shall be able to make your list of subscribers as good as any paper can show that comes to the country. Some of us are sometimes inclined to the belief that we shall be able to produce a public sentiment which will rid Kentucky of that slow consuming cancer yet?"**

Incline to the belief, friends! If your patriotic spirit were infused into the bosoms of citizens who agree with you in opinion—if they had your courage and consistency—if they could speak and act like you, there is not a country in the State which could not be penetrated by the light of liberty, and a Christian love of man. "Tis the miserable cowardice of men which makes slavery so all-powerful. Why should not the rights of the cabin wake as strong an anxiety in the bosom of the legislator as the rights of the palace? Why should not the condition of the poor laborer, and the poor laborer's children, rouse as quick and keen a sympathy in christian hearts, as the few who roll in wealth, and whose every care is ministered to by the obedient slave? For the poor our Savior toiled. Born in a peasant home, the Judean peasantry were his hope, and the object of his life. And who were the disciples that followed him in his blood-marked path? The lowly and the obscure! And shall it be said that they are not much to lube us hard? but you mistake de gendarme name is not Squeezefaulter?"

"Come, come, Ned," continued Ned, quitting his oyster vendor, and walking with him to the door opened, and in stepped a gay, smirky little Frenchman. He made us a low bow, and, as soon as rose from his obsequies, Ned rushed to him in transports of joy, seized him by the hand, and shaking it with friendship's warmest grasp, exclaimed, "How do you do, my old friend? I had no idea of meeting you here; how do you do, Mr. Squeezefaulter? I have you here this evening?"

"Sair," said the Frenchman, "we tank ye ver' much to lube us hard; but you mistake de gendarme name is not Squeezefaulter."

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"Perhaps, sir," said Ned, knowing well what to say nor how to set in such an emergency, "what have you mistaken the gentleman?"

"Begar, sir," said monsieur, "he is mistake ebrying at once. My name is not Zoum; no play no tress; me is not de gentleman fren'; me did not come from Paris, but from Bordeaux, and Ned did not suppose dare was a man in all France dat was name de Squeezefaulter."

"If I am mistaken," said Ned, "I humbly ask you to tell me, really, how you look so much like him, that I might have known you even before he hit."

"Yes, sir," said monsieur, looking at Ned as though he might be an acquaintance after all; "say, sir, dis time you tell my name right; my name is Jacques-Jacques-Sainte-Croix."

"There," proceeded Ned, "I knew it was impossible I could be mistaken; your whole family settled on Sandy Creek; I knew your father and mother, your sister Patty and Dilys, your brother Ichabod, your aunt Bridget, your—"

"Oh, mon Dieu, mon Dieu!" exclaimed the Frenchman, no longer able to contain his surprise; "de son nom von 'Merican family. Dare was not one French ladie had all dat name since dis voil' van."

"Now look at me, good Jacob," said Ned, "and see if you don't recollect your old friend Oldabashleeburg, who used to play with you, when a boy, in Sandy Creek?"

"Vel, monsieur Snotberg, me look at you ver' well; and, begar, me never see you in de creek, nor out de creek. Tis ver' surprize you know one name from one creek."

"Oh, very well, sir, very well; I forgot where I was; I understand you now, perfectly. You are not the first gentleman I have met with in Savannah who knew me well in the country and forgot me in town; I ask your pardon, sir, and hope you'll excuse me."

"Me is ver' will to know you now, sir; but, begar, me will not tell you one, to know you, twenty-five and thirty years ago."

"It makes no difference, sir," said Ned, looking at Paris; "I believe, on reflection, I was wrong; I think you said—sister told you were from Boulevards. Tis ver' suprise you told me."

"Foster die sist Dile," said Ned, "Herc, Monsieur Madlagon, I oyster ready?"

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"Vel, if my oyster ready, you give dem to my friend Monsieur Snotberg, and ask him to be so good to carry dem to my sis' Dilys, and my brother Ichabod, on Sandy Creek?"

"Say, if you do, I'll go with you, when a boy, in Sandy Creek."

"Come, come, Ned," continued Ned, quitting his oyster vendor, and walking with him to the door opened, and in stepped a gay, smirky little Frenchman. He made us a low bow, and shaking it with friendship's warmest grasp, exclaimed, "How do you do, my old friend? I had no idea of meeting you here; how do you do, Mr. Squeezefaulter?"

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Mexican department of New Mexico, Chihuahua, Coahuila, and Tamaulipas, would be an act of direct aggression to Mexico, for all the consequences of which the United States would stand responsible.

When Texas was at last annexed, our government specially applied Mexico that it did not recognize the boundary claims of Texas as valid, that the question respecting boundary was considered an open one, to be settled by convention, and despatched a minister to Mexico for that purpose. Mr. Charles J. Ingersoll, present chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, in the House, then emphatically disclaimed, as follows, the claim that "the boundaries between the States and the Republics are the natural boundaries between the Anglo-Saxon and the Mauritanian races. There ends the Valley of the West. There Mexico begins. While peace is cherished, that boundary will be sacred; Not till the spirit of conquest rages, will the people on either side molest or mix with each other."

We submit these facts without comment. They are worth considering however.

#### Correspondence of the American.

Washington, August 6, 1816.

The Bill for the payment of French Spoliations was signed by the President. Officers, and sent to the Senate. The Senate passed it. The Senate Bill will accordingly have the bill for the relief of the slaves of Robert Fulton, and for establishing the boundaries of Wisconsin, and virtually for the admission of Wisconsin into the Union.

The Senate has been sitting with closed doors for five hours, engaged in the consideration of our Mexican affairs. This subject is devoid of so much importance, that an extension of the session has been talked about, but the House would hardly concur in such a proposition. A great many of the members have already left the city.

#### ITEMS.

The President creates a note with his Veto Message August 3d, in the House of Representatives. We give a brief sketch of what has been said. The Western Democratic members are beginning to look upon themselves as the worst humbugged men ever followed those lights.

The Senate Committee of Investigation are continuing their labors in order to discover who has been guilty of a breach of neutrality in pursuing the course of the American press. The American press has now extended beyond the publication of the correspondence in the Philadelphia North American, and to the appearance of the correspondence in the New York papers. Some of the New York correspondents have been examined before the Committee, and are to be examined again, and to day Mr. Wallace, of the Philadelphia North American, was before the committee. The committee, to present indications, are not likely to attain any satisfactory information.

The President has put another question to rest, and has nominated Judge Grier of Pittsburgh, as Judge of the Supreme Court for the District of Pennsylvania. Mr. Buchanan and his friends were both heartily, after recent events, that he could not pass the ordeal of the Senate. The Mexican War—Light company of C. of C. M. Washington under the command of Capt. C. M. Washington, left for the Texan frontier, on the 15th ultmo. Capt. W. finished the editor of the Sentinel with the statement of the force to proceed to the Mexican State of Chihuahua, by way of San Antonio, as follows:

Light company 4th artillery. . . . . 112 men  
2 companies regular infantry. . . . . 500  
Squadrons of cavalry. . . . . 50  
2 regiments U. S. cavalry. . . . . 1,454  
1 regt. in Arkansas horse. . . . . 222  
1 regt. in Missouri horse. . . . . 227  
1 regt. Texas horse. . . . . 277  
1 regt. Texas foot. . . . . 277

Total. . . . . 4,205

This force, it is stated, constitutes an independent command, which will be under Gen. BELTER. It is to strike into the province of Chihuahua, between Santa Fe and Gen. Taylor's position, and will no doubt intercept the retreat of the forces which will fall back from Gen. Kearny at Santa Fe. It will take the San Fé route to Mexico, where it will cooperate with Gen. Taylor. Its route is through the most healthy and richest part of Northern Mexico.

There has been an increase of \$81,000 in the reception of the Western Railroad, since January 1st, over those of last year or three per cent on the capital stock. On \$20,000 increase, \$20,000 have been received since July 1st. The Boston Courier of Saturday last says—

The receipts of the Western Railroad Company, last week, show an increase of about forty percent over the corresponding week of last year—total \$20,300. The products of the Western States, and the business of our own, are developing its capacities, in a tangible form. A dividend, which is to be paid at the 1st of January, will probably be equal to that of any other road in the country.

An actor named John Reeve was killed at the People's Theatre in Cincinnati, on Tuesday evening last, by Mr. Cook, the treasurer of the Company. The instrument of death was a pistol, and the imaginary wrong a popular actress, whom he had been compelled to the wife of his murderer. He was prompted it appears, and said to Cook's wife as she was passing off the stage, "Why the devil don't you study your part?" This gave offence and led to the commission of the awful tragedy.

John Work, a notorious outlaw, and wholesale murderer and robber, was killed in Washington county, Arkansas, about two weeks since. He had been concerned in several of the outrages committed in, and near the Cherokee nation, within a year or two past. It is related that Work threatened the life of Mr. Finkhouser, that a plan was laid to catch him; that a negro was to give information to Work where he might be found, that he was to lead him to the place, and that eight men were to surround him and rob him. When he was passing off the stage, "Why the devil don't you study your part?" This gave offence and led to the commission of the awful tragedy.

The So. L. Repub. learns that the steamer Radnor bound from Wessel, struck a stump on the 28th ult, above Bonneville, just above the mouth of Lamo Noe River, which caused her to sink almost immediately. She took a shore on the piles and hung her top to the stem swing round and struck the stump ashore in the hole in the hull. She lay with her bottom to the shore, in about two fathoms of water, the boiler head being afloat. Her passengers were thrown overboard by the shock, and others got into the water, and some swam ashore. A number of them succeeded to have been drawn. The boat took fire shortly after the collision, which added much to the confusion and danger, fortunately the fire was speedily subdued.

We understand that Robert C. Grier of Pennsylvania was yesterday nominated by the President to supply the vacancy on the Bench of the Supreme Court occasioned by the death of Judge Baldwin.

James Oliver South of Reading, says the Sal or Observer, recently ejected from his stomach a common water snake, four feet in length, supposed to have been taken into the stomach, by drinking from a pond or brook. He has suffered much for several years, from severe pain in the stomach, causing excessive vomiting, and hæmorrhage.

IMPORTS AT PHILADELPHIA.—The following is the amount of the leading articles of import for the month ending July 21st. Coffees—10,155 lbs., Molasses—824 lbs., Tea—37 lbs., and Sugar—394 lbs., Indigo—297 lbs., Linseed—310 lbs., and 470 lbs.

The Treasury Notes outstanding 1st Aug. 1816.

Amount of the several issues outstanding as per records of the office. . . . . \$46,714 33 Deduct cancelled notes in the hands of the a/c counting officers . . . . . 21,100 00

\$47,894 33

MORE MYSTERY.—A mysterious boat, with only one man and a female, who seems to desire concealment on board, has been lying at anchor in the harbor of Philadelphia, and the mystery is yet to be solved.

The mysterious boat of which we gave some account of yesterday, arrived at Indiabank according to the Post, about 10 o'clock on Monday night. As she approached the wharf, the mastmast was unshipped and laid fore and aft, and the sail spread over the part of the boat. The town was seen, he came ashore, and went up to a restaurant for a few minutes, and then pushed off again, saying he was going to Long Wharf. The man was courteous and gentlemanly in his manner, and appeared like a sailor

#### Congress.

Important measures past! Executive veto!

1. The Sub-treasury. This bill is now law. The Senate passed it by the following vote:

YEAS.—Boggs, Benton, Breese, Bright, Calhoun, Cameron, Cass, Clayhens, Dickenson, Dix, Fairfield, Haunegan, Houston, Lewis, Niles, Pennybacker, Rusk, Semple, Sevier, Speight, Turner, Westcott, Yulee.  
NOES.—Astor, Barlow, Berrien, Ciley, J. M. Clayton, Thomas Clayton, Corwin, Crittenden, Davis, Dayton, Evans, Greene, Huntington, Jarrigan, Johnson, of La., Johnson, of Md., Mangum, Miller, Morehead, Pearce, Phelps, Simmons, Sturgeon, Upham, Webster, and Woodbridge—25.

2. The River and Harbor Bill. The President sent in his veto, August the 3d. It is as follows:

To the House of Representatives:

I have considered the bill entitled "An act making appropriations for the improvement of certain harbors and rivers," with the care which its importance demands, and now return the same to the House of Representatives in which it originated, with my objections to its becoming a law. The bill proposes to appropriate one million three hundred and seventy-eight thousand four hundred and fifty dollars to be applied to more than fifty different objects of internal improvement, and to the navigation of rivers, the majority of them of a local character, it is difficult to conceive, if it shall be sanctioned and become a law, what practical constitutional restraint can hereafter be imposed upon which has not been established even a paper port of entry, and for the months of creeks, denominates harbors, which it improved can benefit only the particular neighborhood in which they are situated. It will be difficult, to effect a general system of internal improvement of which it is the object of the bill, at the expense of many of them of a local character, it is difficult to conceive, if it shall be sanctioned and become a law, what practical constitutional restraint can hereafter be imposed upon which has not been established even a paper port of entry, and for the months of creeks, denominates harbors, which it improved can benefit only the particular neighborhood in which they are situated. 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